

Limited and Director General Resettlement, Ministry of Defence in April, 1993. The said scheme has been reviewed and a revised Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Coal India Limited and Director General Resettlement, Ministry of Defence in April, 1999.

Handing over Indian mines to foreign companies

871. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to handover some of the Indian mines to foreign companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the foreign companies have asked for special concessions to start mining operation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (a) above.

Annual demand and supply of coal

872. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal mining companies having firms supply with approved users can undertake mining coal blocks reserved for captive users;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the projections of annual demand and supply of coal for next 20-years and indigenous availability of coal in the country; and

(d) the long term strategy to meet the requirement of coal for existing and comping up power, steel and cement projects in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An independent coal/lignite mining company can also be allocated a captive block on the condition that the entire coal/lignite so mined would be transferred to an end user company(ies) for their captive consumption in the specified end uses provided that the said mining company has firm back-to-back binding and enforceable supply contract/agreement.

(c) As per projection made by Planning Commission demand of coal in year 2021-22 and in year 2031-32 would be 957 million tonnes and 1417 million tonnes respectively. Indigenous supply of coal, as tentatively projected in draft Coal Vision 2025 document being prepared in the Ministry, for the year of 2024-25 is about 1086 million tonnes.

(d) Strategy for meeting the requirement of coking and non-coking coal are as under:—

- (i) In case of Coal India Limited, 77 coal projects, including expansion/extension projects, at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,452.00 crores, with an ultimate capacity of 159.385 million tonnes per year, have been approved during 10th Plan period and are being developed for increasing in coal production.
- (ii) Improvement in equipment utilization.
- (iii) Timely implementation of projects.
- (iv) Mechanization/Modernization of existing mines.
- (v) All new mines being planned with mechanization.
- (vi) Increasing productivity in both underground and open case mines.
- (vii) Emergency coal production has been planned for increasing production in existing mines/projects.
- (viii) Coking coal and Non-coking coal blocks are being allotted to the producers of cement, steel and sponge iron industries, and to the producers of power, to meet their existing as well as additional demand.

- (ix) Import of coking coal is being resorted to fill the gap between demand and supply as these reserves are not available in sufficient quantity in the country.
- (x) Import of good quality (low ash content) non-coking coal is also being resorted to fill the gap between demand and supply as low ash thermal reserves are not available in sufficient quantity in the country.
- (xi) Coal India Limited has initiated steps for acquisition of coking coal blocks overseas to meet the additional demand of such coal in future.

Increasing the royalty rate

873. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to increase the royalty rates of coal by keeping in view the heavy demand of coal producing States;

(b) if so, the additional approximate royalty expected for each of the coal producing States; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that there is no increase in the prices of coal consuming industries products like steel, electricity and cement consequent upon increase in royalty rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (c) The Central Government constituted a Committee on 02.06.2005 to consider revision of rates of royalty on coal and lignite. The Committee submitted its report on 14.07.2006 after detailed deliberation with all stake holders. The Government is considering the report of the Committee. Revision, if any, would be made taking into consideration the interests of all stake holders including the coal-consuming industries such as steel, power and cement.